

USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter 2003 Year End Special Edition

This is a special issue of the USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter, published to share some recent activities of the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of HIV/AIDS and partners to prevent and mitigate HIV/AIDS across the developing world. We encourage you to circulate this publication to colleagues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Family Health International Opens HIV/AIDS Center in Cambodia

Family Health International's IMPACT Project opened the Mondol Mith Chouy Mith (Friends Help Friends) center in August at the Moung Russey Operational District and Referral Hospital in Cambodia. Supported by USAID, this learning site is implementing continuum of care activities for people living with HIV/AIDS. [More.](#)

POLICY Project Launches Program in Vietnam

The POLICY Project has launched its new program in Vietnam. Activities focus on building capacity for evidence-based HIV/AIDS policy development; strengthening the role of people living with HIV/AIDS within the framework of the Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS principle; and analyzing the country's HIV/AIDS-related human rights obligations. [More.](#)

Johns Hopkins and Save the Children to Implement HIV/AIDS Prevention Program in Malawi

A new HIV/AIDS prevention program in Malawi known as "The Bridge" will engage local organizations and stakeholders to move Malawians from knowing about HIV/AIDS to taking action to prevent transmission of HIV. The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health/Center for Communication Programs and Save the Children are providing technical assistance and strengthening the capacity of local organizations in this \$5.3-million program supported by USAID to reduce high-risk behaviors among Malawians. [More.](#)

USAID-Funded Film Spotlights HIV/AIDS Prevention in Nigeria

Family Health International's IMPACT project has produced "HIV/AIDS in Nigeria: Working Toward an Expanded Response," a 32-minute documentary that examines comprehensive HIV/AIDS programming in four Nigerian states. The film highlights the IMPACT-funded "Awakenings" (feature film shot in Kano), voluntary counseling and testing centers in Lagos and Kano, involvement of faith-based organizations in HIV/AIDS programming, and the central role of people living with HIV/AIDS in IMPACT's work. [More.](#)

Russian Youth Unite Against HIV Epidemic

Realizing that youth frequently acquire information on sexuality and sexual health from their contemporaries, Population Services International's program in Samara, Russia, is training peer educators and young volunteers to reach out to young people with HIV prevention messages. [More.](#)

Truck Spreads AIDS Prevention Messages in Mali

Population Services International's Mali program uses an unconventional method to reach large groups of migrant populations at risk for HIV/AIDS—a 20-ton truck decorated with the signs, logos, and slogans promoting safe sexual behavior. The intervention complements the Ministry of Health's efforts to reduce the HIV/AIDS infection rate along the migratory axis by targeting bus and truck drivers, their apprentices, roadside vendors, and youth aged 15–24. [More.](#)

Local Organization Targets Truckers in Swaziland for HIV Awareness

The "Corridors of Hope" initiative, a regional HIV/AIDS prevention program, focuses on changing high-risk behavior among truckers and commercial sex workers in Swaziland. "Long-distance truckers, bus drivers, and taxi drivers have fallen through the cracks in previous AIDS program, and they now occupy the 'high risk' category in Ministry of Health studies," says Hlobise Ndlovu, marketing and

communications manager for the Population Services International Swaziland. The campaign is financed by USAID. [More.](#)

POLICY Project Study of Human Rights in Cambodia

Dr. Helen Watchirs has teamed with the POLICY Project to study HIV/AIDS-related human rights policies in Cambodia. The study compares Cambodian legal provisions with those in the “International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights,” which Dr. Watchirs developed on behalf of the United Nations in 1996. [More.](#)

The Synergy Project Launches Online Survey of Toolkit Users

Since The Synergy Project APDIME Toolkit was launched in February 2003, more than 750 HIV/AIDS specialists in 65 nations have requested more than 5,500 toolkit CD-ROMs. The toolkit contains links to hundreds of USAID and USAID-funded HIV/AIDS tools, documents, and websites. HIV/AIDS specialists are invited to share their expertise and provide input on the usability and technical content of the toolkit in a brief online survey. [More.](#)

PUBLICATIONS

AIDSMark Releases Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission Brochure

Population Service International's (PSI) AIDSMark Project has released “The Social Marketing Approach to PMTCT,” a brochure that highlights PSI's prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) in Uganda and Haiti. [More.](#)

International HIV/AIDS Alliance Releases First Report in New Series

The first report in a new series, “Positive Prevention: Prevention Strategies for People with HIV/AIDS,” presents a literature review of prevention strategies with, for, and by HIV-positive people. The new Emerging Practice series will feature draft reports that may change as Alliance's knowledge of good practice evolves and reports of interest that precede the development of tools or resources in a particular thematic area. The report is available electronically under “Publications and Resources.” [More.](#)

Population Services International Profiles AIDS-Related Activities

Population Services International (PSI) released four “PSI Profiles” on AIDS-related activities: “Balbir Pasha: HIV/AIDS Campaign is the Talk of Mumbai,” “Reaching the Poor: PSI Provides Health to Low-Income People,” “Making Abstinence Cool: Social Marketing in Zambia is Changing Behavior,” and “Nigerian Radio Campaign Generates Safer Behavior.” [More.](#)

AIDS Education Campaigns Fail Young Men

“Misconceptions, Folk Belief, Denial Hinder Risk Perception among Young Zambian Men,” a research brief by Population Services International, reveals that misconceptions, folk beliefs, and denial are often responsible for young Zambian men's low personal risk perception for sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS. [More.](#)

Case Study of the MTV ‘Staying Alive’ Campaign Available

YouthNet has published a case study detailing the successes and experiences of the 2002 “Staying Alive” Campaign, which reached more than 800 million households worldwide, making it the largest public health campaign ever. [More.](#)

YouthNet Releases Paper and Updated Training Module

YouthNet announces a new Youth Issues Paper, “Applying Social Franchising Techniques to Youth Reproductive Health/HIV Services,” and the 2003 update of the “Reproductive Health of Young Adults” training module. [Youth Issues Paper.](#) [Training Module.](#)

New Resource for Preventing HIV in Those Who Can't Read

“Developing Materials on HIV/AIDS/STIs for Low-Literate Audiences,” is a new manual produced by Family Health International and the Program for Appropriate Technology and Health. [More.](#)

Survey Assesses Prevalence of Sexually Transmitted Infections in Cambodia

Family Health International, USAID, the Pasteur Institute, and the Cambodian Ministry of Health have produced a report that assesses the prevalence of common sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among populations at high risk for both STIs and HIV in Cambodia. [More.](#)

Study Finds Diet Can Significantly Influence Efficacy of Antiretroviral Therapy

The Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance (FANTA) Project's current issue of Technical Notes, “Food and Nutrition Implications of Antiretroviral Therapy in Resource Limited Settings,” examines the relationship between nutrition and antiretroviral efficacy, especially in regions with high incidence of food insecurity. The study, which was supported by USAID, describes the effects of specific food-drug combinations in HIV and AIDS treatment, and presents a guide for antiretroviral therapy program design and management. [More.](#)

Horizons Announces Three Publications

The Horizons Program announces the release of the following publications:

- “Expanding Workplace HIV/AIDS Prevention Activities for a Highly Mobile Population: Construction Workers in Ho Chi Minh City” reveals that peer education is also an effective and affordable way to reach highly mobile and migrant workers. [More.](#)
- “Empowering Communities to Respond to HIV/AIDS: Ndola Demonstration Project on Maternal and Child Health; Operations Research Final Report” indicates that HIV voluntary counseling and testing, and infant-feeding counseling to mothers are feasible and effective components of any mother-to-child transmission reduction strategy, whether or not antiretrovirals are available. [More.](#)
- “The ABCs and Beyond: Developing an Operations Research Agenda on Comprehensive Behavior Change Approaches for HIV Prevention: Report from a Technical Meeting.” [More.](#)

POLICY Project Releases Four Publications

The POLICY Project has released the following documents:

- “The Socioeconomic Impact of HIV/AIDS in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam” discusses individual and household impact, as well as the resources needed to address the country’s epidemic. [More.](#)
- “Construction Workplace Interventions for Prevention, Care and Support of HIV/AIDS” identifies eight interventions for HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment of construction workers. [More.](#)
- “Policies for Orphans and Vulnerable Children: A Framework for Moving Forward” is a framework that summarizes the global orphans and vulnerable children situation and identifies policy-level gaps in national responses to the growing crisis. [English version.](#) [French version.](#)
- “Guía de incidencia política en VIH/SIDA: hombres gay y otros HSH” presents an overview of the HIV/AIDS situation and policy advocacy in Latin America. [More.](#)

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